

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 3 p.m. tomorrow, and further, when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 9, for morning-hour debate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CLAY). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

(Mr. HARE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HARE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the First Baptist Church in Mt. Zion, Illinois.

In 1957, the original 45 members of the Mt. Zion faith community gathered in front of a storefront on Main Street. They chose the name of First Baptist Church and organized a mission. The following year, that small congregation began construction on a new place of worship. As the congregation grew, so did its need for a larger building. The church moved to its present location in 1962.

Throughout the past 50 years, Mt. Zion Baptist Church has played an important role in the surrounding community through its education center, auditorium and mission. I'm happy to celebrate the church's 50th year of service, and I look forward to its continued growth and good works of its congregation.

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, "I will do my duty to God and my country." This is part of the Boy Scout oath. When a Boy Scout becomes an Eagle Scout, some Members of Congress have an official flag flown over the Capitol and these words are requested to be in the official certificate which is given to the Scout, along with the flag.

But the Architect of the Capitol, who is in charge of such matters, censors

the word "God" in these certificates and only puts the word "country" in them.

The word "God," according to the Architect, violates his rules against religious references. The Architect is the caretaker of the Capitol. We have numerous references to God in these hallowed Halls. Our history is based upon a belief in God, whether the Architect likes it or not.

Maybe the Architect hasn't even seen the phrase "In God We Trust" above the flag here in the House of Representatives.

What's next? Is he going to sneak over here in the darkness of the night and chisel off the word "God" because he doesn't want that word "God" in the Capitol?

The first amendment right to express religious freedoms is being violated by the censor of the Capitol.

And that's just the way it is.

(Mr. COURTNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Mohegan Indian Chief, Ralph W. Sturges. Chief Sturges died on September 30, 2007, in New London, Connecticut, at the age of 88.

A lifelong resident of Connecticut, Chief Sturges was a renaissance man whose commitment to community and Nation knew no bounds. During his early life, he worked for the Civilian Conservation Corps and joined the U.S. Army's intelligence division during World War II, where he subsequently earned a Bronze Star for his outstanding service.

After the war, Chief Sturges worked tirelessly for Federal recognition of the Mohegan tribe, which finally occurred in 1992. Because of his efforts, he was elected "Chief for Life," which he faithfully worked as an ambassador of goodwill during the extraordinary growth of Mohegan Sun Resort and Casino as a world-class destination.

While his passing brings sadness to the Connecticut community, his legacy and contributions will be remembered for generations to come. I ask my colleagues to join with me and my constituents to honor his life and offer condolences to his family.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. POE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, Mr. POE talked about this just a few minutes ago, and I'd like to carry on his thinking regarding the Architect of the Capitol or the Acting Architect of the Capitol.

There was a 17-year-old boy who was about to become an Eagle Scout. His name was Andrew Larochelle, and he wanted to give a flag that's flown over the Capitol to his grandfather, who was one of his heroes, and he asked that his Congressman be able to put this language into the certificate that goes along with the flag. And he said, "This flag was flown in honor of Marcel Larochelle, my grandfather, for his dedication and love of God, country and family."

The Acting Architect of the Capitol, if you can believe this, Stephen Ayers, took "God" out of that and sent the certificate back. And he said there can't be a reference to God in any kind of certification like that that comes out of the Capitol.

I'd just like to say to my colleagues, right here we have "In God We Trust" over the Speaker's rostrum. We have "In God We Trust" on our currency. We have "In God We Trust" on our coinage. We have "In God We Trust" in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

And I can't imagine anybody wanting to take God out of a certificate for a Boy Scout or an Explorer Scout or anybody else in scouting because they wanted to honor their grandfather.

I'd like to just tell my colleagues that a few of our Founding Fathers had something to say about having God in our activities and in our government. Patrick Henry said, "It is when people forget God that tyrants forge their chains." Thomas Jefferson said, "God who gave us life gave us liberty."

And John Adams, I want to read you this because it's a little longer but it's very important. He says, "It is the duty of all men in society, publicly, and at stated seasons to worship the Supreme Being, the Creator and Preserver of the universe. And so no subject shall be hurt, molested, or restrained in his person, liberty, or estate, for worshipping God in the manner most agreeable to the dictates of his own conscience; or for his religious profession or sentiments; provided he doth not disturb the public peace, or obstruct others in their religious worship."

The Acting Architect of the Capitol should be removed from office posthaste for doing this, and anybody who